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Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Rainbow PUSH Coalition applauds your efforts to improve upon one of America's most successful infrastructure projects: the Universal Service Fund.

Since the earliest days of the telephone, it has been the policy of the United States that every American deserves equal access to voice service. Today we face a similar challenge: connecting every American to the wonders of high-speed Internet service, which we know has the power to empower citizens. It gives children living in poor school districts access to the world's biggest library. It furnishes out-of-work adults with the skills to find employment in the 21st century global economy—or to employ themselves by starting their own online business. And it connects citizens in need of a helping hand with access to federal, state and local government services that provide a safety net in these tough times.

Rainbow PUSH Coalition supports the creation of a Connect America Fund (CAF) that would subsidize broadband networks in hard-to-reach areas of the country. I believe that the CAF could enable broadband expansion to 4.4 million African Americans living in rural areas. I am encouraged by the Commission's calls for eliminating waste in the High Cost Fund—and potential waste in the CAF—by implementing a new eligibility system that rewards the most efficient service provider and refrains from awarding subsidies in areas where another provider already serves. Subsidies to high-cost areas cannot and should not be allowed to increase under the reform plan for any reason.

As technology advances and becomes ubiquitous, consumers expect their costs to go down, not up. That's why we support a unified rate for

Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., *Founder & President*
Martin L. King, *Chairman*
www.rainbowpush.org

intercarrier compensation that reflects the lowest possible cost. Historically, as you know, these charges were used as a way of paying for universal service long before the Fund's establishment. We can eliminate billions of dollars from consumers' phone bills by simply adopting this modernized rate and applying it right away to all carriers, ensuring that every consumer enjoys the benefits. It's rare that the FCC can provide an immediate, multi-billion dollar stimulus directly into the pockets of struggling Americans; I urge you to take full advantage of that opportunity.

Thank you all again for your considerable work on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse L. Jackson, Sr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
Founder and President
Rainbow PUSH Coalition